

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs ● (816) 426-4220 ● 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 ● Kansas City, MO 64106 www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html

JANUARY 17, 2006 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EL DORADO SPRINGS MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL FIREARM

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an El Dorado Springs, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing a firearm.

Dennis K. Mingucci, 49, of El Dorado Springs, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to three years and one month in federal prison without parole. The court ordered the sentence concurrent with two Cedar County, Mo., convictions for which **Mingucci** was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment.

On Sept. 2, 2005, **Mingucci** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. **Mingucci** admitted that he was in possession of a Lorcin .25-caliber automatic pistol on June 28, 2005. **Mingucci** was arrested after being stopped by an El Dorado Springs police officer for driving with a suspended license and for a non-functioning brake light, Graves said. He asked the officer if he could get a screwdriver to fix the brake light, and as he was getting the screwdriver, the officer saw the pistol in his car.

Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Mingucci** has a 1989 criminal felony conviction for forgery in Jackson County, Mo., a 1995 criminal felony conviction for distributing marijuana in Greene County, Mo., and a 1984 criminal felony conviction for theft in Harris County, Texas.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robyn L. McKee. It was investigated by the El Dorado Springs, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html